

Remarks

Amended claim 1 is supported by original claim 1 and original specification page 8, lines 3-4.

Amended claim 11 is supported by original claim 11 and original specification page 2, line 17 to page 3, line 2 and page 7, lines 9-12.

New claims 14 - 17 are supported by the original specification page 2, line 12 to page 3, line 2 and page 9, lines 18-22.

A copy of US patent application Ser. No. 09/684,649 filed on October 10, 2000 was furnished to the US PTO at the date of filing of the present application.

All the amendments are made without prejudice. The Applicant does not intend to abandon any subject matter present in the application as filed.

Claim Rejection under 35 USC §112

The amendments made in claims 1, 3, 4 and 11-13 overcome the raised objections.

Claim Rejection under 35 USC §102 and 35 USC §103

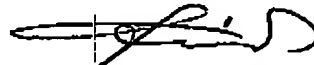
Claims 1 and 3-13 and new claims 14-15 are novel with respect to the documents of record.

Moreover, the prior art would not have suggested to one of ordinary skill in the art that a fuel such as claimed in claims 1, 3-10, 12-13 and 15-17 should be prepared and a method such as claimed in claims 11 and 14-15 should be carried out and would have a reasonable likelihood of success, viewed in the light of the prior art.

Neither the suggestion nor the expectation of success can be found in the prior art, but only in the applicant's disclosure.

In view of the foregoing, favorable action on the merits, including entry and approval of all amendments, reconsideration and withdrawal of each rejection and allowance of all claims is respectfully solicited.

Respectfully submitted,



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